

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 ISO-00 CU-02 ACDA-07 TRSE-00 ERDA-05 /085 W
-----180536Z 119204 /14

R 171825Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8868
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN
USMISSION BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BONN
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USDEL MBFR VIENNA
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 8761

USSALTTWO USDEL

BELGRADE ALSO FOR CSCE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, CSCE, GW, UR, US
SUBJECT: GENSCHER VISIT TO MOSCOW

REF: (A) BONN 10162, (B) BONN 10119, (C) MOSCOW 7872

SUMMARY: ACCORDING TO FRG AMBASSADOR, BREZHNEV SEEMED
TO BE IN GOOD FORM DURING THE MEETING WITH GENSCHER, GROMYKO
PERFORMED WELL BUT SOVIETS SAY HE IS NOT THE SAME OLD WORK-HORSE
OF OLD. ON BELGRADE THE SOVIETS ARE STILL CONCERNED ABOUT
NON-DIPLOMATS (READ: U.S. CSCE COMMISSION MEMBERS) ON
DELEGATIONS AT BELGRADE. BREZHNEV WOULD NOT FIX A DATE
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FOR HIS BONN TRIP AND SAID HIS MEETING WITH PRESIDENT
CARTER DEPENDED ON ACHIEVING A SALT AGREEMENT.
FINALLY, ON THE NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE, GROMYKO
SURPRISED THE GERMANS BY SHOWING CONSIDERABLE
INTEREST IN THE SUBJECT. WE ARE REPORTING ON
THE COMMUNIQUE AND SOVIET PRESS TREATMENT OF
GENSCHER'S LUNCHEON SPEECH BY SEPTTEL. END SUMMARY.

1. FRG AMBASSADOR WIECK GAVE HIS QP COLLEAGUES LENGTHY DEBRIEF ON GENSCHER VISIT JUNE 16. FOLLOWING ARE MAIN POINTS WHICH SUPPLEMENT BONN'S EXCELLENT REPORTS (REFTELS).

2. BREZHNEV'S APPEARANCE: BREZHNEV APPEARED IN GOOD FORM DURING HIS MEETING WITH GENSCHER. HE DID NOT READ HIS PAPERS MECHANICALLY, BUT SPOKE EXTEMPORANEOUSLY ALBEIT WITH FREQUENT REFERENCES TO THE BRIEFING PAPERS. HE SEEMED ALERT AND VIGOROUS, AND HIS ATTENTION SPAN WAS GOOD. DESPITE THIS OVERALL APPRAISAL, BREZHNEV MADE ONE SLIP. IN COMMENTING ON MBFR AT DIFFERENT POINTS IN THE CONVERSATION, HE USED DIFFERENT BRIEFING PAPERS (REFTEL A) AND APPARENTLY DID NOT REALIZE THAT HE WAS CRITICAL OF FRG ON MBFR IN THE ONE CASE WHEREAS HIS OTHER COMMENT ON THE SAME SUBJECT WAS POSITIVE.

3. GROMYKO: GERMANS FELT GROMYKO WAS IN GOOD SHAPE BUT WERE TOLD BY JUNIOR MEMBERS OF SOVDEL THAT HE TIRES EASILY AND CAN NO LONGER WORK LATE IN THE EVENINGS AS WAS HIS HABIT BEFORE. SOVIETS ALSO SAID THAT FOLLOWING HIS PARIS TRIP WITH BREZHNEV GROMYKO WOULD BE TAKING A SIX WEEK VACATION. GERMANS NOTED ONE KRUSHCHEVIAN-LIKE INCIDENT WHEN BREZHNEV, INDICATING IT WAS GENSCHER'S TURN TO TALK, SAID "NOW YOU CAN CRITICIZE THE SOVIET UNION, THAT IS, YOU CAN CRITICIZE HIM" (AT THIS POINT BREZHNEV JERKED HIS THUMB IN THE DIRECTION
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OF GROMYKO).

4. BREZHNEV BONN TRIP: BREZHNEV TOLD GENSCHER THAT HE WAS UNABLE TO FIX A DATE FOR HIS TRIP BUT THAT THE FRG SHOULD NOT INTERPRET THIS AS AN EFFORT TO AVOID A MEETING, RATHER HE CLAIMED IT WAS DUE TO SOME UNCERTAINTIES (NOT FURTHER DEFINED BUT GERMANS ASSUMED HE MEANT US VISIT) IN HIS PERSONAL PROGRAM.

5. BREZHNEV MEETING WITH PRESIDENT CARTER: BREZHNEV TOLD GENSCHER THAT HE EXPECTED TO MEET WITH PRESIDENT CARTER BUT THAT THIS IS DEPENDENT ON THE ACHIEVEMENT OF A SALT AGREEMENT.

6. BELGRADE MEETINGS: GROMYKO MADE FIVE BASIC POINTS ON BELGRADE ONLY ONE OF WHICH APPEARS TO US TO BE NEW (AND POTENTIALLY TROUBLESOME). HE SAID ONLY REPRESENTATIVES OF FOREIGN MINISTRIES COULD BE VALID INTERLOCUTORS IN BELGRADE MEETINGS. (COMMENT:

THIS IS FURTHER CONFIRMATION THAT THE SOVIETS VIEW WITH CONCERN THE PRESENCE ON THE US DELEGATION OF MEMBERS OF THE U.S. CSCE COMMISSION (REF C PARA 6).

7. NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE: GROMYKO SURPRISED THE GERMANS BY SHOWING CONSIDERABLE INTEREST IN THE RESULT OF THE PARIS MEETINGS (AND THE LONDON ECONOMIC MEETINGS ALSO). HE WENT SO FAR AS TO ASK HOW THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES MIGHT ENTER THE NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE AND PARTICIPATE IN ANY RESOLUTIONS PASSED BY THE IEPC MEETINGS. THE GERMANS THOUGHT THIS ATTITUDE POSSIBLY REFLECTED SOVIET SECOND THOUGHTS ABOUT THEIR POSITION AND CONCERN THAT THEY MAY BE LEFT OUT SHOULD THE DIALOGUE DEVELOP INTO SOMETHING.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MINISTERIAL VISITS, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
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Litigation History:
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